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DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

Sacramento, CA 95818-7007

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P. O. Box 187007

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SEP 2 0 2010

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

By R. Henry

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

Го:)) NO. H- 2531 FR
ANTONIO J. GOMEZ, an individual)) <u>ORDER TO DESIST AND</u>
) <u>REFRAIN</u>
) (B&P Code Section 10086)
)

The Commissioner (Commissioner) of the California Department of Real Estate (Department) caused an investigation to be made of the activities ANTONIO J. GOMEZ ("GOMEZ"). Based on the investigation, the Commissioner has determined ANTONIO J. GOMEZ engaged in, is engaging in, or is attempting to engage in, acts or practices constituting violations of the California Business and Professions Code (Code) and/or Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations (Regulations), including the business of, acting in the capacity of, and/or advertising or assuming to act as, a real estate broker in the State of California within the meaning of Section 10131(d) (performing services for borrowers in connection with loans secured by real property) of the Code. Furthermore, based on the investigation, the Commissioner hereby issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Desist and Refrain Order under the authority of Section 10086 of the Code.

Whenever acts referred to below are attributed to ANTONIO J. GOMEZ, those acts are alleged to have been done by GOMEZ, acting by himself, or by and/or through one or more agent, associate, affiliate, and/or co-conspirator or by using other names or fictitious names unknown at this time.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At no time herein mentioned has GOMEZ been licensed by the Department in any capacity.
- 2. During the period of time set out below GOMEZ and/or other agents, associates, affiliates, and/or co-conspirators solicited one or more borrowers and negotiated to do one or more of the following acts for another or others, for or in expectation of compensation: negotiate one or more loans for, or perform services for, borrowers and/or lenders in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by one or more liens on real property; and charged, demanded or collected an advance fee for any of the services offered, in violation of Sections 10130 (real estate broker license required to perform certain acts), 10085.5 (real estate broker license required to charge or collect an advance fee), and 10139 (criminal penalties for unlicensed activity) of the Code.
- 3. On or during April, 2009, GOMEZ, entered into an agreement with Jaime G. to negotiate a loan modification concerning the real property located at 1470 West Street, Soledad, California, in which GOMEZ would negotiate a loan modification for Jaime G. and receive as its fee for loan modification services the sum of \$300.00, in violation of Sections 10130 (California real estate license required), and 10139 (criminal penalties for unlicensed activities) of the Code.
- 4. On or about March 2, 2010, Deputy Real Estate Commissioner Rene Esquivel acting undercover contacted GOMEZ to verify that GOMEZ was offering foreclosure rescue services to distressed homeowners within Monterey County. The Deputy Real Estate Commissioner informed GOMEZ that he was a homeowner who was having problems with his mortgage and that he had been referred to GOMEZ by Jaime G. GOMEZ confirmed that he was offering

foreclosure rescue services to Monterey County homeowners. GOMEZ then explained the steps he would take to resolve the Deputy Commissioner's purported mortgage difficulties. Gomez stated that for an advanced fee of \$500.00 the Deputy Commissioner would execute a Power of Attorney to Gomez which GOMEZ would use to execute a deed transferring the Deputy Commissioner's real property to GOMEZ. GOMEZ would then negotiate a short sale of the property with the lender resulting in GOMEZ owning the property. GOMEZ, in turn, would sell the property back to the Deputy Commissioner at the lower short sale price.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

5. Based on the findings of fact contained in Paragraphs 1 through 4, above, GOMEZ and/or through one or more agents, associates, affiliates, and/or co-conspirators, or other names or fictitious names unknown at this time, solicited one or more borrowers to perform services for those borrowers and/or those borrowers' lenders in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by one or more liens on real property, acts which require a real estate license under Section 10131(d) of the Code, during a period of time when GOMEZ was not properly licensed by the Department.

DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER

Based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law stated herein, ANTONIO J. GOMEZ doing business under his name, or any other name or fictitious name, and/or your agents, associates, affiliates, and/or co-conspirators ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO:

Immediately desist and refrain from performing any acts within the State of California for which a real estate broker license is required. In particular, you are ordered to desist and refrain from:

- (i) soliciting borrowers and/or performing services for borrowers or lenders in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by one or more liens on real property, and
- (ii) from charging, demanding, or collecting an advance fee for any of the services you offer to others, unless and until you obtain a real estate broker license issued by the Department, and until you demonstrate and provide evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner

that you are in full compliance with all of the requirements of the Code and Regulations relating 2 to charging, collecting, and accounting for advance fees, including Section 10146 (place all 3 previously collected advance fees into a trust account for that purpose) of the Code and Sections 4 2970 (an advance fee agreement must be submitted to the Department and be in compliance with 5 the Regulations) and 2972 (must provide an accounting to trust fund owner-beneficiaries) of the 6 Regulations. 9/(5, 2010 7 8 JEFF. Hstate Commissioner 9 10

- NOTICE

Business and Professions Code Section 10139 provides that, "Any person acting as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson without a license or who advertises using words indicating that he or she is a real estate broker without being so licensed shall be guilty of a public offense punishable by a fine not exceeding twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed six months, or by both fine and imprisonment; or if a corporation, be punished by a fine not exceeding sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) . . ."

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Antonio J. Gomez 1007 San Rafael Street Soledad, CA 93960 (831) 678-8424

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